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Application No.: 09/835049

Case No.: 56698US002

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 56 are pending. Claims 1 to 3, 26 to 29, and 35 to 39 are canceled in the current amendment, and claims 4, 6, 20, 30 and 40 are amended.

Claims 47 to 56 have been allowed. Claims 4 to 25, 30 to 34, and 40 to 46 have been objected to as being dependent from a rejected claim, but indicated as otherwise allowable if properly re-written. Applicant submits that these claims have been properly amended and are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 6, 20 and 27 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, for reciting features with insufficient antecedent basis. Applicant submits that the amendments to claims 6 and 20 and the canceling of claim 27 renders this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Each of claims 1 to 3, 26 to 29, and 35 to 39 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 or 103. Without acquiescing, and for the purpose of expediting prosecution, Applicant has canceled all of these rejected claims. As such, the rejections of these claims have been rendered moot. Applicant requests that these claim rejections be withdrawn, and that a notice of allowance be issued for claims 4 to 25, 30 to 34, and 40 to 56, as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

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